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The Times-Herald.

The Times-Herald is an old established friend of the people of Harney County where it has been a weekly visitor for thirty years. Its job department is equipped to serve your needs.

B. HILL WAS SHOT BY HIDDEN ENEMY

Case Recalls Pioneer Days of Bad Men.

TRACKS IN DUST BETRAY MURDERER

Gun Pumping Water Stock When Shot; Two Mexican Suspects Held for Examination.

"Died from gunshot at the hands of party unknown."

Such was the verdict of the coroner after hearing the evidence in the E. B. Hill murder case at Denio.

Recalling early pioneer days when hostile Indians and "bad" white men made life precarious, the setting of the Hill shooting is dramatic in the extreme. Miles from any neighbor, in a small open space among the willows where a pump and trough were located for watering stock, Mr. Hill was shot to death by a hidden enemy while pumping water for his stock.

A half mile east of the hay camp on the Hill ranch, the willows have been cleared away from a small piece of ground to provide a drinking place for thirsty cattle. Near the trough, and separating the open space from the large meadow on which the hay camp is located, is a barbed wire fence, which with the willows makes a small enclosure.

About 2:30 last Friday afternoon, Mr. Hill had come down to this enclosure presumably to demonstrate the working of the pumping engine to one of the ranch hands. This man had business back at the hay camp, and some time between his leaving, and five o'clock that evening when a neighbor found the dead body, Hill was shot by a man concealed in the willows less than fifty yards away.

Tracks in the desert dust showed that the murderer had come through the willows along the barbed wire fence, and laid in wait until a favorable opportunity to shoot down his unsuspecting victim. Two or three small dry draws and a dry irrigation ditch cross the fence, and the murderer may lay his undoing to the tracks he left in the receptive soil.

Some disagreement exists among visitors to the scene of the tragedy as to the exact spot in which the assassin stood when the fatal shot was fired, and as to the size of the weapon used. A cow path through the willows along the fence gives concealment and an easy method of reaching the nearest point to where the body was found, so it is probable advantage was taken of this fact. Others agree that from the position in which the body lay, the murderer must have stood several yards from the fence, and about thirty yards further from his victim. The bullet entered the body from the left side, smashing through and breaking the left arm, breaking the fourth, fifth and sixth ribs, puncturing the lungs, severing the bloodvessels at the heart, and taking off the top portion of that organ. No piece of the leaden messenger of death could be found larger than a grain of wheat, according to the man, and it is his theory that a .22 or .25 calibre highpower rifle was used.

Undergrowth of blue grass and (Continued on page five)

Robt. E. Strahorn Would Float Bond Issue for Railroad

Robert E. Strahorn has made formal application to the state for permission to issue bonds in the sum of \$500,000. Funds derived from the sale will finance railroad building that will tap the richest territory in Central Oregon.

The road as planned will connect the Southern Pacific at Klamath and the Oregon Washington Railroad & Navigation Co. and the Oregon Short Line at Bond and the Oregon Short Line and Union Pacific at Burns. Building will be on the unit plan, which accounts for the small amount of money asked to float.

Approximately 425 miles of road will comprise the completed system, 10 miles of which is now completed between Klamath and Dairy.

HANLEY COMPANY BUYS POWERFUL NEW TRACTOR

Electric Searchlights Permit Night Work as Well as Day on Farm

The William Hanley company is installing a new model 75 horse power Holt caterpillar tractor on the OO ranch. J. W. Johnston, representative of the Portland agent for the tractor, is in the county to supervise unloading the new machine and loading the old one for shipment. He will also attend to having the new tractor in perfect running order and instruct the company men in the fine points of its use.

Electrically equipped and with strong electric searchlights, it is possible to run the tractor at night as well as day, and it is understood the company so intends to use it. From 15 to 20 acres of broken land and 10 to 15 acres of unbroken land is said to be the machine's daily capacity. It will also be used in road making, a use to which several Oregon counties have put it, according to Mr. Johnston.

Travelling over all parts of the county as he does, Mr. Johnston has had plenty of opportunity to observe the effects of irrigation on otherwise unproductive soil. He is naturally an enthusiastic irrigation booster. He cited the instance of the Phoenix project, where irrigation was made possible through the construction of the Roosevelt dam. Nothing less than a desert before water was put on the soil, it has since become a garden spot. The same big change is predicted for this valley. A country that grows weeds and sagebrush in the profusion shown locally, will grow anything with sufficient water. With the coming of irrigation, our farmers and ranchers are going to find the tractor a real necessity.

Mr. Johnston reports several inquiries as to the price of the machine in which he is interested, especially in the smaller sizes.

Postmaster Taking Orders For Government Stores

List Reminds Hungry Scribe of Good Old Army Days

Householders of Harney county are given an opportunity to save their hard earned shekels by the purchase of food stuffs from Uncle Sam. The Burns postoffice has received price lists and order blanks for army stores that are being put on the market to help combat old h. c. of I.

Everything from bacon to tomatoes, alphabetically speaking, is included on the list. It makes an old soldier homesick to see such an array of army chow—and no mess sergeant in sight! Civilian peace time rations do reduce one's shadow so! For instance, the writer hasn't had a good feed of beans—army baked beans (every Wednesday and Saturday,) since Uncle Sam gave him the boot and said "Here's your hat—what's your hurry?" (Invitations accepted by mail, phone or in person.) But army food was not all baked beans, for a good idea of the variety of eats Uncle Sam fed his doughboys, gobs and marines can be obtained by looking over the list.

The boys at the postoffice will be pleased to exhibit the list, supply order blanks, and furnish information desired. The government is not going into the mail order business to compete with local merchants, but through the efforts of certain congressmen, is trying to relieve an unusual condition, and simultaneously dispose of a large stock of army stores to good advantage.

Alter Office Rooms

Fred Clingan is busily at work in the office of the Harney County Abstract company, making some repairs and alterations. The partition between the two front rooms has been removed, giving a large office much more suitable to the conduct of the business. It makes a most pleasant place in which to work, and forms an advantageous arrangement for expediting service. Three rooms in rear of the front office are being prepared for use as store rooms.

BURNS COMMERCIAL CLUB

(by the Secretary)

Last April a number of progressive men, realizing the general unsatisfactory conditions in Burns and Harney County, undertook to organize a Commercial Club on a permanent basis and ninety one public spirited men and women pledged themselves to monthly payments for the maintenance of same. Permanent organization was effected July 3rd on the basis that the Club should be financed exclusively by the people of Burns, but its activities to extend to the remotest part of the County.

The move was timely. About that time a local business man fell out of a second story window of the Liberty theatre and it didn't hurt him a bit, because he was so slow in falling. One of the problems to be solved by the Club is to get renewed vigor into the entire community.

Owing to the war and to unusual climate conditions, Harney County has experienced two or three adverse seasons, and while some of us may be a little disappointed none of us have any reason to be discouraged. God has graced the country with soil and sturdy people and if we succeed in making the soil produce, the people will prosper and be happy.

Organized we are a power, without it we are nothing but a mob—each individual pulling to cross purposes. The Club can not undertake to interfere with any matter pending in the Courts for action or decision, but as soon as the Honorable County Court has acted on the mandate of the Supreme Court in reformation of irrigation district No. 1, at the regular September term of Court, the Commercial Club will take decisive action either on general or specific lines for the irrigation of our fertile acres and our rich soil will be called on to produce wealth for the tillers and merchants, and food for a starving world.

Highways and good roads are other important problems, being the real agents of civilization and development of the tourist traffic, so is combatting the designs on Malheur Lake; timber resources and railroad tonnage; parks and camping places for tourists; mail routes and postal facilities; demand for adequate service by public service corporations; establishment of industrial enterprises with attendant payrolls, as well as much needed civic improvements, etc. etc.

Business and professional men should enter into the local and civic life of the community; they should meet with the farmers, stockraisers, homesteaders and employees and see if they cannot assist them along the lines of co-operation. All interests are identical, and the merchant or professional man who only expects to make a profit out of his customers or clients whether from city or country, without being willing to take an interest in their affairs and help to solve their problems is nothing but a parasite on the Community.

Bubbling foolish vanity of the curb stone orator who delights in criticizing and ridiculing what he seldom, if ever, knows anything about, before an admiring audience is responsible for much misinformation. Dig up a little useful business for him to attend to and enter into the progressive spirit. The young man of today will be the leader tomorrow, all join the club, take part in its deliberations, help to solve and accomplish things for the benefit of Burns and all of Harney County.

A small but enthusiastic attendance at the Commercial Club meeting growers Association, water users, last night took up the following matters of importance:

Lease for club rooms proposed and ready to be signed.

Committee appointed to ascertain amount of wood needed by club for the winter and to secure same.

Reception at the Commercial club room to new teachers, with an appropriate program was referred to "Reception Committee."

All organizations such as Stockgrowers Association, water users, soldiers and sailors invited to make free use of the club rooms for their meetings.

Entertainment Committee to get in touch with Secretary Correll of State Stockgrowers Association so as to have full information about Stockgrowers meeting at Burns next Spring.

Clean up and fire works at next meeting.



Petition Circulated for Extension of Street

Would Open Washington Street East to River.

One of the most progressive moves Burns citizens have undertaken for some time is now under way. A petition is being circulated requesting the city council to open the street running east and west past the First National Bank from its present terminus on east to the river. The fertile land in that portion of the city makes a home there particularly desirable and citizens have recently purchased property there.

The present means of reaching the houses to be benefited by the suggested extension is over an unsatisfactory board walk through a field. Should the property owner require this walk to be taken up, residents of that section would find it necessary to go around several blocks to the north. In the wet weather of early spring, communication with the business district would be greatly hampered by such a necessity.

Right in line with this progressive move, is the suggestion from a local business man that the unsightly weeds growing in such luxuriant profusion all over town be cut down. The delegates the commercial club sent to Yellowstone park called our attention to the general unsightliness of Burns as compared to other small towns they saw en route. So far, only individual effort has been the response. Some few business places have taken steps to get rid of the weeds, but the great majority are still growing in their careless abandonment.

Local Garage Is Given Dodge Car Agency in County

A new assignment of the Dodge car agency was made in the county Saturday, the Universal Garage being chosen as Harney county representative for this well known automobile. R. B. Morse, who is Eastern Oregon and Idaho representative for Dodge Brothers, and E. H. Merlin, the Pacific Coast representative, were in town to confer with the management of the garage, and the appointment to the agency is the result.

The initial shipment of cars is expected about September first, with more to follow as soon as transportation facilities will permit. Twenty-five machines were included in the order put in, which number will include business as well as pleasure models. A ready market for the business models, or light trucks, is expected among local ranchers. Prospects for sale of the pleasure models are also good, as this make is well and favorably known in this territory.

In addition to handling the Dodge Brothers cars, the garage will carry a complete line of parts, and be able to give expert Dodge repairing service.

It was also learned by a representative of this paper that the Universal Garage will soon have painters at work decorating the front of their business house. A sketch has been submitted for a design to cover the entire end of the building, in which their specialties will be prominently displayed.

They are at present working on the enclosure in the rear of the building, making a camp ground for the benefit of tourists. When Burns becomes known as a place that can offer such accommodations to tourists, we can expect to find a great many more of them visiting us.

Pastor Will Meet Principal

Rev. R. S. Hughes and family, and Mrs. A. Burchdorf, their guest, have gone out to Juntura to meet Prof. C. F. Hughes there today. On their return, the party will stop at Drewsey over Sunday. The program for Sunday includes a sermon by Rev. Hughes in the morning, a picnic at noon, and an address in the afternoon. Subject of the afternoon address will be "The Hope of Our Country." They expect to arrive in Burns Monday. Prof. Hughes is the new high school principal.

GOVERNMENT TRACTOR FOR NEW HIGHWAY

Hauled Fighting Tanks in France.

SKILLED OPERATORS WORK ON ROAD

Contractor Again in City Preparing for Active Operations When Crew Arrives.

Captain J. W. Morris, contractor with the Pacific Bridge company on the Burns-Crane highway, is again in the city making active preparations to carry on the work. He is accompanied by Mr. R. J. Striecher, his assistant and superintendent of construction.

Captain Morris earned his title and rank during the recent unpleasantness, being one of those fortunate mortals who saw service in France. His branch was the engineer corps.

A recent telegram received by him brought the news that a large government tractor was shipped from a New Jersey point about the 19th or 20th. This machine, was especially built to haul tanks in France and is understood to be very powerful. The machine built for commercial and farm purposes has a maximum speed of two and five-eighths miles per hour, while it is Captain Morris's opinion that the caterpillar to be received here will develop as high as twelve miles if necessary. The state of Oregon was presented with this machine by the Federal government and has been leased for construction of the local highway.

Very little common labor will be used in the work, as most of it is done by machinery calling for skilled operators. The crew will arrive soon after a camp is established and other preparations are made for their comfort. Local men will be employed on the highway if they can be found with suitable experience, otherwise men must be brought in from the outside.

County High and Grade Schools Start September First

The county high school and city public school will open for the winter term on Monday, September first. The high school teaching staff is Prof. C. F. Hughes, principal, mathematics; Mrs. Hazel Triska, domestic science and art; Miss Margaret Whealdon, commercial; and Miss Helen Anderson, English. Although strenuous efforts were made to find a teacher for manual training and agriculture, it was impossible to do so. A telegram received yesterday afternoon brought the resignation of Miss Jennie Huggins, who had been re-elected for history and Latin.

The grade school teaching staff has many new members this year. Prof. W. M. Sutton will again be the principal, and teach the eighth grade. Other members are: Mrs. Neva Geer, Mrs. Helene Biggs, Mrs. Zella Hagley, Mrs. Frances Huston, Miss Ilda Hayes, Miss Lulu Hayes, and Miss Ruth Miller. Assignment to grades had not as yet been definitely settled.

The new text books for the term have been received by a local book seller.

A great scarcity of teachers in rural schools is causing district boards considerable dismay. Harney county offers higher salaries than the average rural community, but it is still found extremely difficult to secure suitable teachers. Salaries paid last year averaged \$85 per month, and the average has been increased, this year to \$100. The minimum now required by law is only \$75. It must be taken into consideration that the teacher works but eight or nine months each year; and the annual salary therefore is much smaller than commercial positions offer. In a county of magnificent distances, such as Harney, union schools present a most difficult problem. Were it possible to combine several districts into one school, a salary for a staff of teachers could be offered that would be more inducement than at present.

Melvin Doan, farmer and stock raiser from Fields, is in the city.